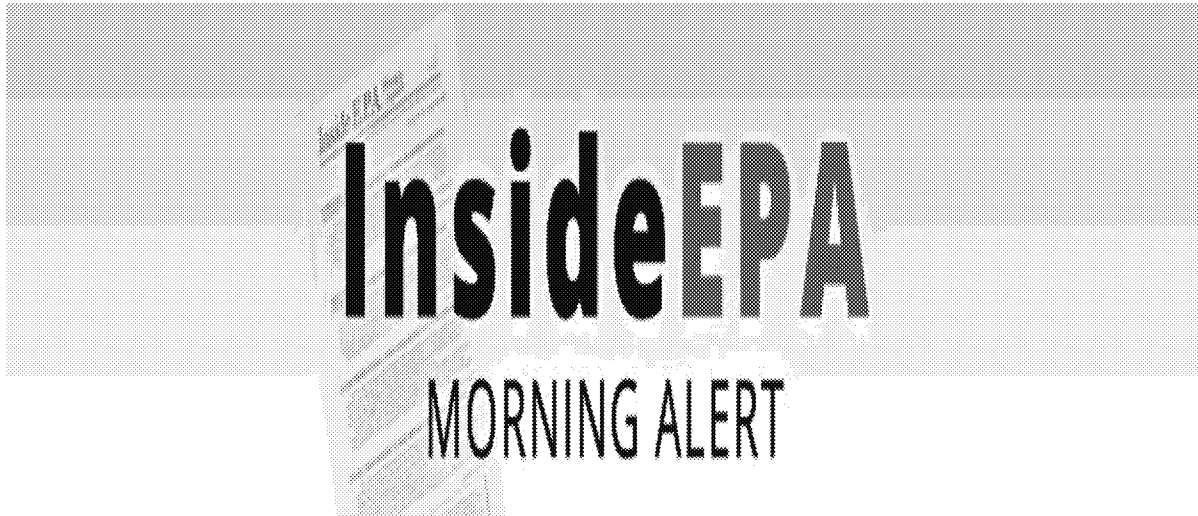


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REDEFINING EPA: Overhauling an agency and its mission -- Complete coverage

June 1, 2018

The Weekly Focus

EPA's Push To Overhaul NAAQS Poses Test For 'Cooperative Federalism'

EPA's push to overhaul and streamline the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) process will pose a major test for Administrator Scott Pruitt's pledge to give states more power over environmental decisions, as some states welcome new NAAQS compliance flexibility while others fear it will boost interstate pollution.

Latest News

SAB Votes To Review EPA's Science, Emissions Rules In Sign Of 'Rebuke'

EPA advisers have voted to review the science underlying agency rules aimed at rolling back a suite of Obama administration's greenhouse gas and emissions regulations, as well as a controversial proposal to require that major rules be based on publicly available science, decisions that environmentalists say amount to a "sharp rebuke" of Administrator Scott Pruitt's deregulatory agenda.

SAB Chair Honeycutt Dodges Tough Questions On EPA Science Policies

Michael Honeycutt, the new chair of EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB), dodged tough questions from reporters on EPA's "secret science" policy, review of major EPA rulemakings and related issues at the first panel meeting since his appointment, but he reaffirmed his skepticism of the Obama administration's decision to tighten the ozone ambient air standard.

EPA, Sierra Club Fail To Reach Deal On Key 'Sue-And-Settle' Test Case

EPA and the Sierra Club have abandoned an effort to settle a suit over the agency's failure to produce congressionally mandated studies on the environmental impacts of the renewable fuel standard (RFS), seeking instead to brief the case in a move that suggests Administrator Scott Pruitt's directive against settling such cases is driving the action.

Observers Criticize Hill GOP Claim No RIA Needed For 'Glider' Repeal Rule

Key observers are criticizing claims by Hill Republicans that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) should not require a regulatory impact analysis (RIA) when reviewing EPA's plan to scrap production limits on high-emitting "glider" trucks because it is deregulatory, saying there is no such exception.

Judges Reject Rehearing In Groundwater Suit, Teeing Up High Court Petition

A closely divided appellate court will let stand a panel ruling that imposed Clean Water Act (CWA) liability for an underground pipeline leak that reached surface waters through groundwater, but the narrow vote -- with five judges in favor of *en banc* rehearing -- signals that the question is far from settled and could bolster a Supreme Court petition.

Daily Feed

States launch suit to force EPA to implement landfill rules

Eight states say EPA has failed to take action on state compliance plans for the Obama-era methane standards for existing landfills, charging that the agency has "conceded" its failure to act.

OMB formally reviewing vehicle GHG rule rollback plan

It is not clear if officials have incorporated calls from a wide range of industry groups to seek input on a more moderate plan to largely retain Obama-era stringency levels while offering more compliance "flexibility."

Senate Democrats seek IG inquiry into Pruitt's house hunting

Top Democratic senators are seeking an investigation into whether Administrator Scott Pruitt violated federal regulations when one of his top aides searched for housing on his behalf.

Ewire: Pruitt touts Trump's support amid ethics scandals

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt says that he has President Donald Trump's support despite a slew of recent ethics scandals and a looming IG report.

PEER claims ethics violations in Pruitt defense fund

A whistleblower group says EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's legal defense fund seems "calculated to give the appearance of taking untoward gifts," and calls for investigations into its structure and donors.

Former EPA chief launches new Harvard climate center

Gina McCarthy said the new center seeks to transform science into "meaningful actions that will deliver a healthier, more just, and sustainable world."

Read all the latest EPA news, analysis and documents →

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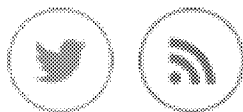
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